

Please amend claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 as follows:

1. (Three times amended) A peptide of the formula:  $R^1 - X^1 - X^2 - R^2$

wherein  $X^1$  is phenyl alanine;

$X^2$  is any amino acid residue;

$R^1$  is  $NH_2$ - or an amino acid sequence  $X^3 - X^4 - X^5$

wherein  $X^3$  is an aliphatic amino acid residue having a side chain hydroxyl group  
and  $X^4$  and  $X^5$  are the same or different and are any amino acid residue and wherein  $R^2$  is a  
sequence of 1 to 3 amino acid residues which are the same or different and are aliphatic  
amino acid residues provided that the peptide is not Phe-Glu-Gly, Phe-Ala-Gly [or], Phe-  
Ala-Gly-Gly or Phe-Ala-Ala-Ala.

2. (Three times amended) A peptide of the formula:  $R^1 - X^1 - X^2 - R^2$

wherein  $X^1$  is phenyl alanine;

$X^2$  is Glu or Ala;

$R^2$  is Gly-Gly;

$R^1$  is  $X^3 - X^4 - X^5$  wherein

$X^3$  is Thr,

$X^4$  is Asp or Ala and

$X^5$  is Ile or Ala.

6. (Twice amended) The peptide of claim 2 having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:9);
- (b) Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:11);
- (c) Phe-Ala-Gly-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:12); and
- (d) Phe-Glu-Sarcosine.

10. (Three times amended) The peptide of claim 6 wherein Phe and [Glu] Glu or Ala are D amino acids.

Please add new claims 31-36 as follows:

--31. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein the peptide comprises at least one D amino acid.

32. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) Phe-Glu-Gly;
- (b) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:8);
- (c) Thr-Ala-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:3);
- (d) Thr-Asp-Ala-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:4); and
- (e) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Ala-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:6).

33. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein the peptide is Phe-Glu-Gly and wherein Phe and Glu are D amino acids.

34. A method for treating or preventing SIRS-induced hypotension in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a peptide selected from the group consisting of

- (a) Phe-Glu-Gly;
- (b) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:8);
- (c) Thr-Ala-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:3);
- (d) Thr-Asp-Ala-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:4);
- (e) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Ala-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:6); and
- (f) Phe-Glu-Gly wherein Phe and Glu are D amino acids,

or an effective fragment or derivative of said peptide.

35. A method for treating or preventing anaphylactic hypotension in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a peptide selected from the group consisting of

- (a) Phe-Glu-Gly;
- (b) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:8);
- (c) Thr-Ala-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:3);
- (d) Thr-Asp-Ala-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:4);

- (e) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Ala-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:6); and
  - (f) Phe-Glu-Gly wherein Phe and Glu are D amino acids,
- or an effective fragment or derivative of said peptide.

36. A method for treating or preventing an anaphylactic reaction in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a peptide selected from the group consisting of

- (a) Phe-Glu-Gly;
  - (b) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:8);
  - (c) Thr-Ala-Ile-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:3);
  - (d) Thr-Asp-Ala-Phe-Glu-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:4);
  - (e) Thr-Asp-Ile-Phe-Ala-Gly-Gly (Sequence ID NO:6); and
  - (f) Phe-Glu-Gly wherein Phe and Glu are D amino acids,
- or an effective fragment or derivative of said peptide.—